

FamilyFun

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Fun
for Kids

Spring
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FAIR**

CUTE & EASY CRAFTS

CREATIVE PROJECTS FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES



CUTE & EASY CRAFTS

CREATIVE PROJECTS FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

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Colorful birds

Here's a super simple way to assemble a flock of featherless friends.

Fold a piece of **scrapbook paper** in half. Draw a bird figure on one side and use **scissors** to cut out the figures. Bend two **colored paper clips** into feet and **tape** them to the back side of one figure. Use a **glue stick** to join the two figures, sandwiching the legs between them. Use a **hole punch** to make an eye and adjust the feet so the bird can stand on its own.



cut-up collage

.....

Give your photos a silly makeover with this creative cutting and pasting project.

YOU WILL NEED

- ☐ Photo (portraits work best)
- ☐ Colored paper
- ☐ Glue
- ☐ Scissors

1. Print out a large color photo—portraits have the most dramatic effect! Cut it into long strips, vertical and horizontal pieces, or various geometric shapes (as shown).

2. Reassemble the photo on a piece of colored paper, spreading out the pieces to let some color show through.

3. Once you're set on a design, glue the pieces in place.

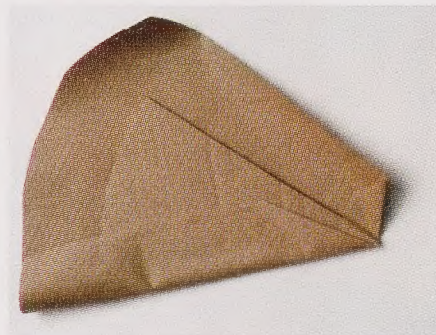


paper pizza

Just like pizza, play food is best when you can make it exactly the way you like it. Prepare a whole pie's worth of plain paper slices for a great preschoolers' party craft.

YOU WILL NEED

- ☐ Corrugated cardboard
- ☐ Brown paper bag or craft paper
- ☐ Tape
- ☐ Tacky glue
- ☐ Colored paper
- ☐ Hole punch
- ☐ Glue stick
- ☐ Scissors



1. Cut a large piece of corrugated cardboard into a circle, then into pie slices. Wrap each cardboard slice with a piece of brown paper bag or craft paper as shown, securing it with tape. For the crust, roll up and crumple the excess paper along the curved edge and secure it with tacky glue.

2. For paper toppings, try yellow cheese shreds, black olive circles (with help from a hole punch), brown-crumpled-paper sausage, simple mushroom shapes, red sauce blobs, pepperoni circles, and curvy green pepper strips. Let your tiny chef attach toppings to his slice with a glue stick.

winged wonders

What makes these fluttery butterflies so vibrant?
Magazine photos!

YOU WILL NEED

- ☐ Colorful magazine pages
- ☐ Pipe cleaners
- ☐ Scissors

1. For each butterfly, choose 2 colorful magazine pages. Cut out 2 squares, one 5 by 5 inches, the other 4 by 4 inches.

2. Starting at one corner, accordion-fold the squares on their diagonals (our folds were $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch each).

3. Pinch the center of each folded square. Bend a 12-inch pipe cleaner in half and create a small loop. Arrange the squares in a butterfly shape and center them inside the pipe cleaner, as shown below.

4. To secure the wings, twist the pipe cleaner above and below the wings and curl the ends for antennae.



easy weave newsprint basket

You won't be-weave how fast this basket comes together when you work around a form. We used a roll of paper towels for ours. Clear tape helps keep the strips secure.

YOU WILL NEED

- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Paper towel roll
- ☐ Newspaper
- ☐ Rubber band
- ☐ Transparent tape

1. Cut newspaper into 5¼- by 21½-inch strips. Fold each strip lengthwise to about an inch wide. We used ¾-inch strips for the short basket, 1½-inch strips for the taller ones.

2. To make the basket's base, lay two strips in the shape of a plus sign (+) and tape them together. (Tip: For taller containers, double the length of each base strip by taping two strips together.) Add four crosspieces to form an asterisk, as shown, taping each one.

3. Center the strips on the paper towel roll, then fold them down and use a rubber band to secure them, as shown.

4. Starting at the base of the basket, tuck a folded strip under one paper rib and secure it with tape. Begin weaving around the form, pulling tightly as you go. Tape the end in place. Continue adding strips in this way to achieve the desired height, leaving about 1½ inches unwoven at the top.

5. Remove the rubber band and take the basket off the paper towel roll. Fold the raw edges inside the basket and tape them down.





WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2010
WHAT'S YOUR VIEW OF
EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION
FOR RAPE VICTIMS?
I AM NOT A DEFENDANT,
I AM NOT IN YOUR COURTROOM!



THE FEDERAL



Hi, Dad!

lightweight billfold

.....

Make a Tyvek wallet that holds all the essentials.

YOU WILL NEED

- ☐ 11½- by 10½-inch piece of Tyvek (the synthetic material often used for envelopes can be found at office supply stores)
- ☐ Painter's tape
- ☐ Paper
- ☐ Clear contact paper or packing tape
- ☐ Markers (optional)

1. Fold the Tyvek into thirds lengthwise (A).
2. Fold over a 3½-inch section (B).
3. Fold over the remaining section so that its edge meets the first fold (C), then unfold it.
4. To create the card pocket, line up a length of painter's tape with the edge of the shorter flap and wrap the tape's ends around the top and bottom edges of the billfold as shown (D), without sealing the opening. Wrap the side and bottom edges of the wallet with tape.
5. Secure a photo and a word balloon with clear contact paper or packing tape. Decorate the wallet with tape or markers.



pinhole suncatcher

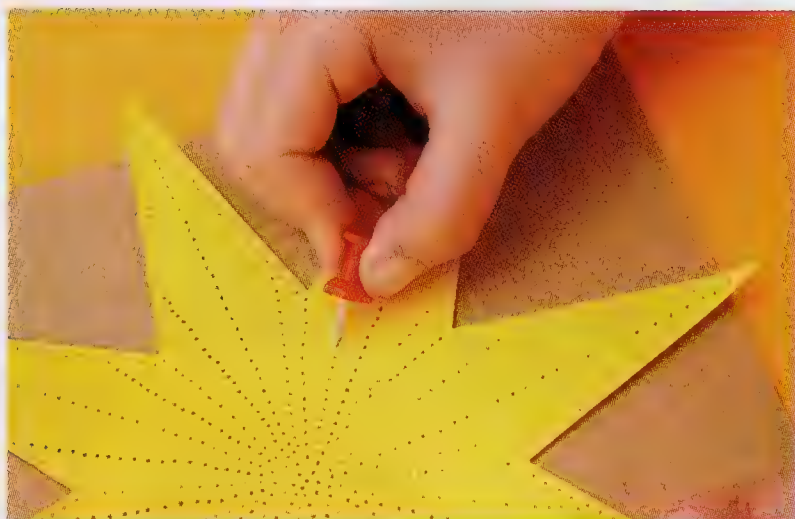
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These colorful, perforated window decorations can really brighten up a room when sunlight shows through all the pinholes.

YOU WILL NEED

- ☐ Card stock
- ☐ Corrugated cardboard
- ☐ Pushpin
- ☐ Thin string or thread
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Pencil

- 1.** Cut a sun shape out of the paper or card stock and place it atop the cardboard.
- 2.** Lightly draw designs of swirls and lines on the back side of the sun shape. Have your child pierce the paper with the pushpin along the design.
- 3.** Loop a piece of string or thread through one of the holes near the top edge of the sun catcher and hang your crafty creation.



zig-zag puppets

All you need for the basic version of these puppets is a sheet of paper, tape, and a marker. We dressed up ours with additional cut-paper features.

YOU WILL NEED

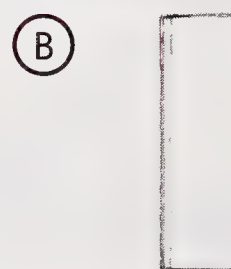
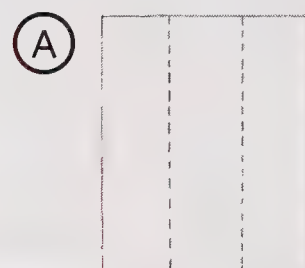
- ☐ 8½ x 11-inch sheet of colored paper
- ☐ Tape
- ☐ Markers
- ☐ Colored paper (optional)
- ☐ Scissors (optional)
- ☐ Tacky glue (optional)

1. Fold a letter-size sheet of paper in thirds lengthwise (A).

2. Tape the seam closed (B).

3. Fold the paper in half. Fold the ends in half, in the opposite direction, so that the paper ends up accordion-folded into four equal sections (C).

4. Create a face with markers and, if you like, colored paper pieces attached with tacky glue. Slip your thumb and fingers into the two ends of the folded paper to bring your puppet to life.





brown bag neighborhood

.....

This open-ended craft lets you create buildings of pure whimsy—or you can try constructing a replica of your own town.

You'll need **two grocery bags** for each structure. Flatten the plain bag, then use **markers, crayons, magazine clippings, or colored paper** to decorate it with windows, doors, bricks or clapboards, shutters, and other architectural details. **Glue or tape** on dimensional touches such as **construction paper** awnings or **tissue paper** creeping ivy. Stuff the second grocery bag with **crumpled newspaper**, then slide it inside the decorated bag to form a closed six-sided block. Top the house with a **poster board** roof and construction paper gable ends held in place with glue or tape, then finish your creation with a construction paper or **cardboard tube** chimney.

Tip: If your bags have printing, tape plain paper over one of them, or cut the bag apart, turn it inside out, and tape it back together.

shape-shifting sculpture

Inspired by artist Alexander Calder, these easy-to-make building pieces provide endless play for burgeoning art-chitects.

YOU WILL NEED

- Colored card stock or heavy-weight scrapbook paper
- Scissors

1. Cut free-form shapes of varying sizes from colored card stock or scrapbook paper (ours measure 3 to 5 inches wide and 3 to 8 inches long).

2. Snip two to four 1-inch slits into the sides of each shape. Build a sculpture by interlocking the pieces along the slits.



blockheads

Gather up everything from bottle caps to erasers for a trash-to-treasure project you just can't refuse.

YOU WILL NEED

- ☐ Scrap wooden blocks
- ☐ Acrylic paint
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Glue
- ☐ Hammer and nails
- ☐ Household items such as pencils, soda cans, feathers, wire, beads, and buttons

1. Our blocks are $3\frac{1}{2}$ by $3\frac{3}{4}$ by $\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Sand yours if needed, and then coat it with acrylic paint.

2. Collect items for appendages, features, hair, and tails. We used craft store supplies, such as fun wire and beads, too.

3. Paint any items you'll be attaching. Use scissors to cut plastic cutlery and pencils, and a small handsaw (adults only) for thicker objects.

4. With a hammer and nail, make pilot holes to attach screws or wires. Dab glue in the holes before inserting the wires.

5. To hang on a wall, bend a soda can pull tab so that the two rings form a slight angle. Glue the bottom ring to the back of the block, about 1 inch from the top. When the glue is dry, your masterpiece is ready to hang.



go tube racer

This dragster's drinking straw axles allow it to really speed along.

YOU WILL NEED

- ☐ Cardboard tube
- ☐ Craft knife
- ☐ Hole punch
- ☐ Drinking straw
- ☐ Toothpick
- ☐ Plastic bottle caps

1. Paint an 8-inch length of a cardboard tube and let it dry.
2. Use a craft knife (an adult's job) to cut a cockpit for the driver and a rear flap for a spoiler.
3. Using a hole punch, make two pairs of holes for the axles near the car's underside, spaced about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches apart and about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from each end. Cut two 2-inch segments from a drinking straw and slide them through the holes.
4. Insert toothpick through each straw. Use a small nail to poke holes in the centers of four plastic bottle caps and push the wheels onto the toothpick ends.



stacked skyscraper

Made from stuff you already have around the house, this towering, build-it-yourself skyscraper can keep children busy for hours. Start by collecting cardboard boxes in various sizes.

Tape the **boxes** shut with **packing tape**, then stack and tape them atop each other. Using **markers** or **crayons**, your kids can decorate the boxes with windows, columns, gargoyles, mailboxes, and so on. They might also add some 3-D touches, such as **tissue paper** flowers and bushes, **construction paper** flags, or even some **plastic figurines**.

TIP: If you don't have plain brown boxes, wrap yours with butcher paper or turn them inside out and tape them back together.

mint tin kits

Mint tins are sturdy and portable, so they make ideal containers for on-the-go boredom-buster kits. To make a kit, trace a **mint tin lid** on **lightweight paper** (we used colored printer paper), then cut out and **glue** the paper to the lid. Stick **white paper** to an **adhesive magnetic sheet**. Draw on facial features with **marker**, cut them out, and stow them inside the lid. Fill the tin with miniature fun gear, such as tiny playing cards and colored pencils. Use the top as a base for creating faces.





pocket purse

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Turn an old pair of blue jeans into an over-the-shoulder bag.

YOU WILL NEED

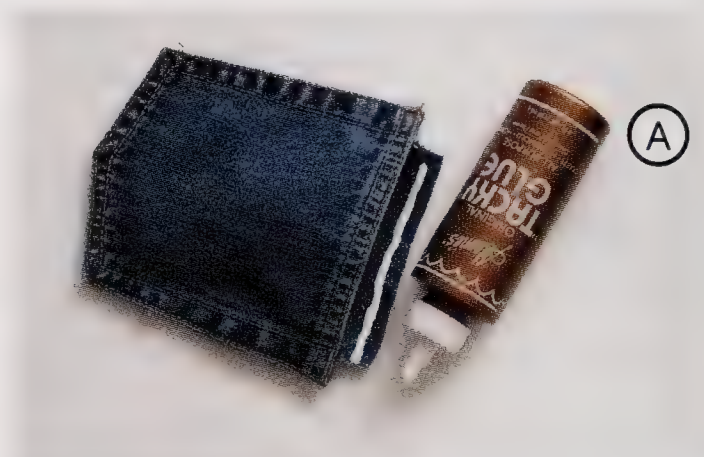
- ☐ Pair of old jeans
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Needle and thread
- ☐ Ribbon or braided rope
- ☐ Iron-on transfers, paint, or patches
- ☐ Velcro strips, buttons, or snaps

1. Begin by cutting off a back pocket of an old pair of jeans. Be sure to cut through the pant seat so the pocket stays intact. Give yourself a good margin of fabric beyond the pocket for finishing (A, B) or to make into fringe (C).

2. Sew a long piece of ribbon, an old belt, or braided rope to the sides of the pockets to make a shoulder strap.

3. Let the outside of the purse become a canvas for ornaments. Decorate with iron-on transfers, fabric paint, beads, patches, or appliques. More ambitious kids might embroider their initials or other designs on the denim for an authentic 70s look.

4. To hold the purse shut, sew strips of Velcro, buttons with loops, or snaps to the inside of the pocket.



can-do robots

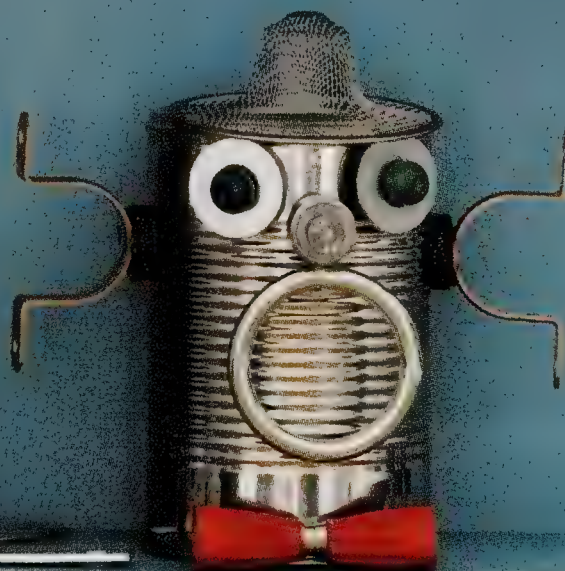
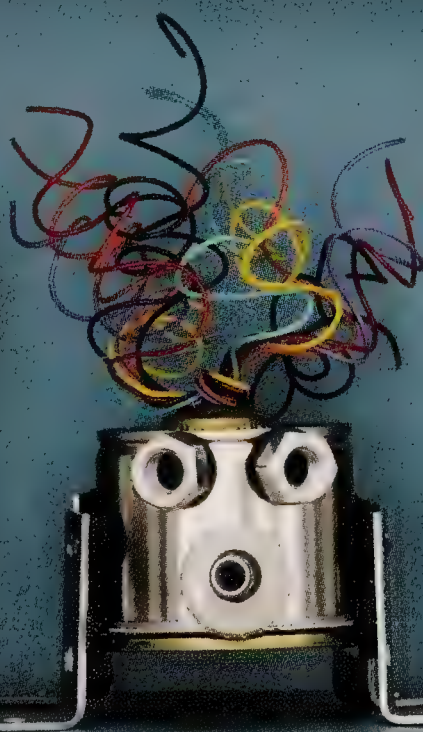
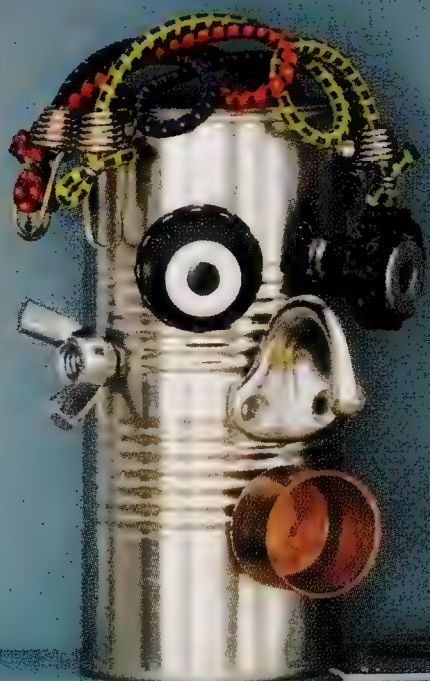
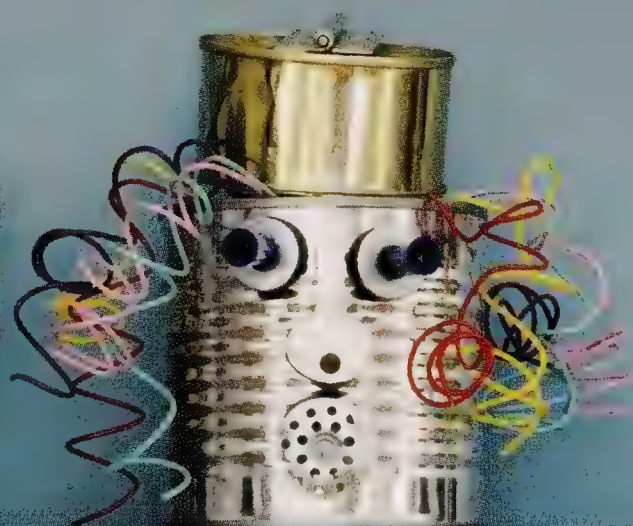
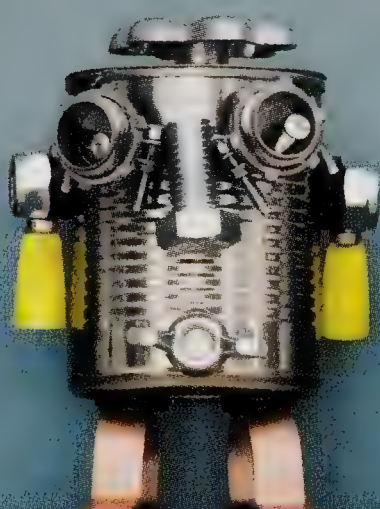
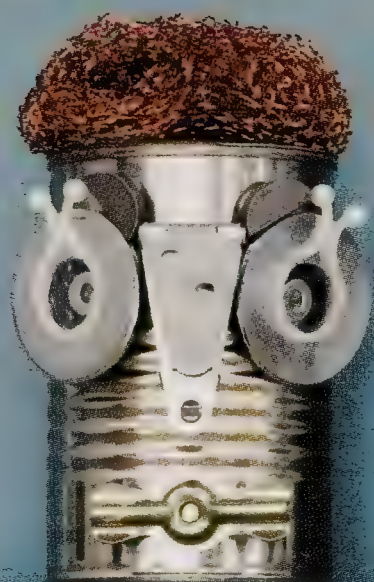
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These friendly robots are more than just good-looking; magnets hold their features in place, making the 'bots the metallic equivalent of a Mr. Potato Head.

YOU WILL NEED

- Metal can (tin, steel, or aluminum)
- Electrical tape (optional)
- Hardware and various recyclables such as bottle caps, keys, etc.
- Hot-glue gun
- Strong disk magnets

1. Open a can with a safety can opener so there are no sharp edges. If you only have a regular opener, line the inside of the can's rim with electrical tape. Or you can use an easy-open pull-top can. Empty, wash, and dry the can.
2. For facial features, arms, propulsion devices, and communication arrays, look for items around the house and at the hardware store. We used bolts, brackets, hinges, keys, wing nuts, switches, bottle caps, washers, knobs, and more.
3. Hot-glue the items to strong disk magnets then attach them to the can.



tee-rific tote

.....

When your child outgrows her favorite shirt, turn it into a handy bag.

YOU WILL NEED

- ☐ Old T-shirt
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Needle and thread (or fusible bonding web, such as Super Weight Stitch Witchery)
- ☐ Fabric glue



1. Cut off the shirt's sleeves, collar, and bottom hem, as shown.
2. Turn the shirt inside out and sew the bottom closed (or close the seam with fusible bonding web). Prevent the shoulder seams from unraveling by putting a few dots of fabric glue on each seam end. Turn the tee right side out, and it's ready to tote!



crafty lanterns

Customize glass-jar luminaries—the perfect patio decor—with strips of pretty printed fabric.

YOU WILL NEED

- Cotton fabric
- Glue stick
- Pint-size canning jar or tempered glass container
- 24-gauge wire
- Beads
- Wide marker
- Flat glass marbles
- LED tea lights

1. Cut the fabric into three ½-inch-wide strips (ours are 11 inches long). Run a glue stick along the back of each strip and adhere it to the jar.

2. Wind wire around the neck of the jar three times, then twist together the ends and trim any excess. Cut three 12-inch lengths of wire, then loop one end of each around the neck wire and twist to secure them. Thread on beads.

3. Holding the three wires together, slide on a large bead, then twist the wires into a single strand. Wrap the strand around the marker to make a loop, then twist the end around the strand and trim.

4. Put marbles and an LED tea light inside the jar and hang.



waxed gemstones

Use crayons to turn a box of rocks into a cache of waxy jewels.

YOU WILL NEED

- ☐ Smooth, flat rocks
- ☐ Foil-lined cookie sheet
- ☐ Newspapers
- ☐ Crayons, wrappers removed



1. Wash and dry the rocks, then heat them on the foil-lined cookie sheet at 225° for 15 minutes. Using an oven mitt, carefully remove the rocks from the oven and set them on the stack of newspapers (an adult's job). The rocks will be very hot to the touch.

2. Use the crayons to draw on the stones. For the marbled effect shown here, hold crayons against the rock in one place to create puddles of color, then use the end of a crayon to swirl the wax. Let the rocks dry and cool completely before handling.



flower fairies

.....

These magical nature friends will get your child crafting in the great outdoors.

YOU WILL NEED

- ☐ Nature objects such as flowers, ferns, and leaves
- ☐ Card stock
- ☐ Crayons or markers
- ☐ Glue

Help your child gather supplies from nature. When she's done collecting, she can draw a figure on a piece of card stock and glue on clothes, wings, a magic wand, and other accessories.



tin-y garden

.....

Our pocket-size oasis is easy to put together, and even easier to tend.

To start, remove the lid from a **mint tin** (do this by slowly and firmly pushing back on the lid until the hinges bend open). If you like, glue **decorative paper** to the tin's sides or adhere **colored tape**. Next, pour in a layer of **small pebbles** or **aquarium gravel** for drainage. Fill the tin the rest of the way with **potting soil** made for succulent gardens.

To plant the **cacti**, hollow out depressions in the soil and tuck in the plants, handling them with gloves if they have spines. Gently press down around the roots, then tap the tin lightly to help the soil settle. Keep your garden in a sunny, warm spot and water it sparingly when the soil feels dry.



nest guests

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These pinecone owls are fast friends to make. We used excelsior, a fine wood packing material sold at many craft stores, for their nest.

YOU WILL NEED

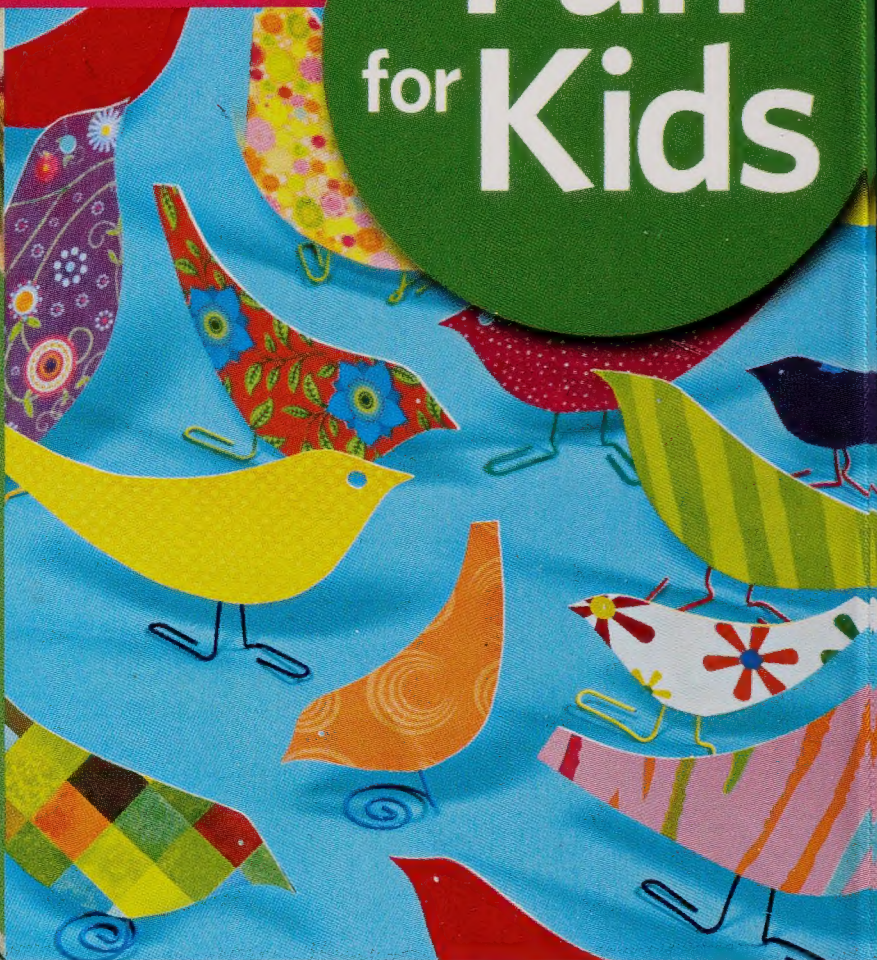
- ☐ Pinecones, large and small
- ☐ Felt, brown and yellow
- ☐ Tacky glue
- ☐ Googly eyes
- ☐ Cardboard
- ☐ Excelsior (wood fibers or shavings)
or shredded paper



1. To make an owl, snip off the stem of a pinecone so that it stands on end. Cut triangle ears and a beak from felt and glue them in place. Glue googly eyes onto felt circles, then glue the eyes in place.
2. To make the nest, cut a cardboard circle large enough to hold all the owls. Glue on a layer of excelsior or shredded paper, then let the glue dry. Apply a dab of glue to the base of each owl and place it in the nest, resting on the cardboard.

FamilyFun

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Kids are sure to go craft crazy over fun and simple projects from the experts at *FamilyFun* magazine. Grab some paper, scissors, and imagination and keep your kids entertained with unique activities and hours of creative play.



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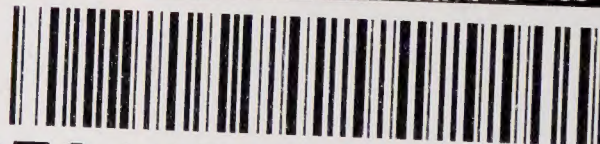


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